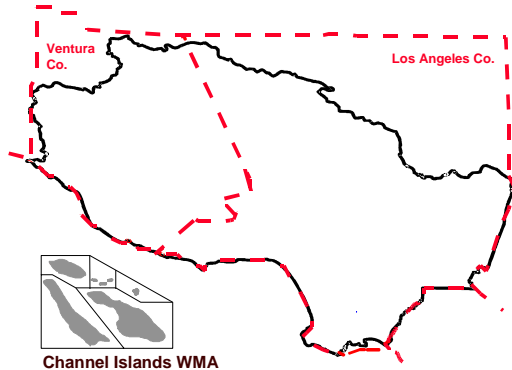


## ***THE CHANNEL ISLANDS WMA***

This watershed will be targeted for permit renewal purposes in FY05/06.

### **Overview of WMA**



The Channel Islands within the Region's boundaries are: Anacapa, San Nicolas, Santa Barbara, Santa Catalina, and San Clemente Islands. Anacapa and Santa

Barbara Islands are part of the Channel Islands National Park. The waters within six nautical miles of Anacapa and Santa Barbara Islands are designated

#### **Beneficial Uses of Island Watercourses**

- Municipal supply
- Groundwater recharge
- Contact & noncontact water recreation
- Warmwater habitat
- Wildlife habitat
- Preservation of rare & endangered species

a national marine sanctuary. The ocean waters adjacent to the islands (not the entire circumference of Santa Catalina however) were designated Areas of Special Biological Significance by the state of California. The west side of San Nicolas supports a large gull rookery and elephant seal breeding area. The U.S. Navy has facilities on San Nicolas (and a desalination plant) and San Clemente Islands with a small package treatment plant on the latter. San Clemente Island is the primary maritime training area for the U.S. Department of the Navy Pacific Fleet, U.S. Navy SEALs, and the U.S. Marine Corps. The city of Avalon is located on Santa Catalina Island and also has a small treatment plant.

#### **The Channel Islands WMA**

- Five islands
- Areas offshore of islands designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance
- High quality marine and rocky intertidal habitat
- Heavy use by marine mammals and endangered species
- No impairments

### **Water Quality Problems and Issues**

Water quality in the vicinity of the islands is uniformly good. There are some potential threats from naval facilities and small treatment plants; however, no part of this watershed management area is on the 303(d) list.

#### **Permitted discharges:**

- 5 NPDES discharges including one POTW (major discharge) on Catalina Island
- Four minor NPDES discharges
- 6 dischargers covered under an industrial storm water permit
- 1 discharger covered under a construction storm water permit

Types of permitted wastes discharged into the Channel Islands WMA:

Nature of Waste <i>Prior</i> to Treatment or Disposal	# of Permits	Types of Permits
Nonhazardous (designated) filter backwash brine waters	2	Minor
Nonhazardous (designated) wastes from dewatering, rec. lake overflow, swimming pool wastes, water ride wastewater, or groundwater seepage	1	Minor
Nonhazardous (designated) domestic sewage	1	Major
	1	Minor

**Hazardous** wastes are those influent or solid wastes that contain toxic, corrosive, ignitable, or reactive substances (prior to treatment or disposal) managed according to applicable Department of Health Services standards

**Designated** wastes are those influent or solid wastes that contain **nonhazardous** wastes (prior to treatment or disposal) that pose a significant threat to water quality because of their high concentrations

**Nonhazardous** wastes are those influent or solid wastes that do not contain soluble pollutants or organic wastes (prior to treatment or disposal) and have little adverse impact on water quality

**Inert** wastes are those influent or solid wastes that do not contain soluble pollutants or organic wastes (prior to treatment or disposal) and have little adverse impact on water quality

Major discharges are POTWs with a yearly average flow of over 0.5 MGD or an industrial source with a yearly average flow of over 0.1 MGD and those with lesser flows but with acute or potential adverse environmental impacts.

Minor discharges are all other discharges that are not categorized as a Major. Minor discharges may be covered by a general permit, which are issued administratively, for those that meet the conditions specified by the particular general permit.

Most of the NPDES, general industrial and general construction dischargers are located on Catalina Island.

**Stakeholder Group**

There is no stakeholder group organized for the islands.

**Current Activities**

**CORE REGULATORY**

Continuing core regulatory activities that will be integrated into the watershed management approach include (but are not limited to) necessary renewal/revision of NPDES permits. There is one major discharger (sewage treatment plant on Santa Catalina Island) and four significant or minor dischargers under individual permits. Compliance inspections, review of monitoring reports, response to complaints, and enforcement actions relative to the watershed's NPDES permits will continue.

Due to limited resources, only the basic regulatory activities are performed: review of dischargers' monitoring reports, minimum necessary inspections and sampling, issuance/renewal of permits, levels 1 and 2 enforcement actions (noncompliance and violation notification), case handling, and answering inquiries from the public.

**BASIN PLANNING**

The 2001 Triennial Review identified adoption of TMDLs as Basin Plan amendments the highest priority issue that can be accomplished with current levels of funding. Approximately 0.5 PYs/TMDL would be utilized.

A draft final San Clemente Island Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for San Clemente Island has been prepared by the U.S. Navy. The Island is home to a variety of unique and rare biological resources both on the land and in the adjacent waters. The INRMP will establish priorities for the next 5 years by which the Island provides necessary military training

opportunities, while sustaining and enhancing the natural resources found there. More information may be found at: <http://www.sci-inrmp.org/public/publicresources.htm>

### **Near-term Activities**

Specific resource needs are described in the Region-wide Section of this document.

A preliminary review of resources for core regulatory activities against cost factors has determined that our region is seriously underfunded for our baseline program. We will be seeking more funding for our core program activities.

This watershed will be a focus for SWAMP monitoring in FY04/05.

We will maintain involvement with island activities and pursue funding options, especially those involving implementation of nonpoint source measures (coordinate 205(j) and 319(h) activities) as well as other outreach activities such as speeches, meetings, and participation in environmental events. As resources permit, we will also work with stakeholders to implement provisions of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments.